

MIDDLEBURY REGISTER

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FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1913.

FOREFATHERS' DAY.

Landing of the Pilgrims Celebrated by Historical Society.

The 233rd anniversary of the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth, Mass., was observed Friday, December 19, by the townspeople and the faculty and students of Middlebury college. For the past 75 years the event has been commemorated under the auspices of the Middlebury Historical society and was this year under its supervision. The speaker was the Rev. Nehemiah Boynton of Brooklyn, N. Y., who delivered a stirring address on "The Mayflower and Other Craft" in the Congregational church at five o'clock before a large audience. Dr. Boynton is pastor of the Clinton Avenue Congregational church in Brooklyn.

His lecture was interesting and instructive and breathed the depth of sincerity which has individualized him among public lecturers.

Following Dr. Boynton's address supper was served and the Ladies' Social party was held in the lower auditorium of the church. President John M. Thomas of Middlebury college acted as toast-master, first introducing Prof. Charles B. Wright who gave an historical account of the Forefathers' celebration which began in Middlebury in 1842. The Rev. Arthur H. Bradford, pastor of the Rutland, Vt., Congregational church, and Prof. Charles T. Abbot of Middlebury college were introduced as further speakers, at the conclusion of which Dr. Boynton replied to the many compliments which he had received.

A musical program under the direction of Mrs. Miner, followed the supper. The program was as follows: Trio, violin, piano, cello, by Mrs. Harry L. Cushman, Mrs. Miner and Mr. Schilling; solo, Arcadian Lullaby, Dr. Melten; trio, Mrs. Cushman, Mrs. Miner, Mr. Schilling; solo, Mrs. Cushing Hill, "Love's Coronation," followed by the singing of "Auld Lang Syne" by all.

The celebration had the largest attendance in the history of the Forefathers, the auditorium of the church being crowded during the lecture of Dr. Boynton.

Threatens Vermont's Forestry Resources.

The Brooklyn Eagle calls attention to a proposition that may have most serious consequences to the efforts being made for preserving and reforesting the timber lands of Vermont. It notes the application now before the public service commission of the northern part of New York by the Cranberry Lake Railroad company to surrender its charter and abandon its route. It claims that this company has thoroughly cut over within the past 10 years a tract of 17,000 acres in St. Lawrence county and that, having denuded this tract, it now wishes to get out.

It is stated that this company has another large tract of timber land in the mountains north of Manchester, this State, and that it is already moving to this new location its employees' houses and its equipment and that it purposes to skin this great tract of its trees, dry up the sources of the Otter and Battenkill rivers as well as to disfigure the region in the vicinity of a beautiful and favorite mountain resort.

The contemporary does well to emphasize the fact that it ought to be clear that railroad charters are not granted solely for the convenience of capitalists, but that capitalists securing them assume responsibilities toward the people who follow in the wake of the railroad, which they cannot shake off as easily as they can tear down a saw mill and ship it to some new forest reserve.

It is extremely doubtful, thinks the Eagle whether the people of Vermont can protect their Green Mountains from the spoliation which this company proposes. But the devastation which it intends to work will overbalance all that the State has been trying to do for half a dozen years back to increase its forests.

Vermont now has a forestry commissioner, a law to encourage the planting of forests by remitting taxation, and to guard against forest fires. This lumber company will sweep away in two years more forest than the State can grow in 20, and for this destruction there is no

repair save the slow process of nature.

It is a serious question whether, for the protection of their water supplies, States should not limit the proportion of timber to be cut off from any given acreage. The meat packers are advocating laws to compel farmers to raise their bull calves for beef, but laws to prevent the lumber companies from stripping the hillsides of trees seem far more needed.—Rutland News.

LOCAL TRADE BODY'S AID ASKED IN FIGHT ON INCOME TAX LAW.

Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce Thinks Enforcement of Measure Will Injure Business.

Is a nation wide appeal to congress about to be started for a modification of certain phases of the income tax law?

This is the idea, which members of practically every board of trade, chamber of commerce and business association in the United States have just thrust before their attention, it is said, as a result of the vigorous campaign started by the Indianapolis Chamber of Commerce.

The resolution, passed by that body a week ago, was of such a radical nature, that a story of the same was handled over the Associated Press leased wires as well as the lines of numerous other news gathering organizations.

The local board of trade yesterday received a copy of the resolution, and at the meeting of the board of governors it was read and referred to the committee on legislation. The campaign is being conducted from the Indianapolis chamber's able publicity bureau, and its communications have been mailed to every city and town in the nation, urging similar action, it is said, in the name of business.

They ask that the board of trade here join in an appeal to congress to modify the requirements for deduction at the source of income, or suspend the same for a period of two years. This suspension they argue would allow the people concerned to grow accustomed to the principles of income taxation and to substitute in the meantime methods for obtaining adequate information without obstructing or endangering business.

The legislation committee will consider the communication during the next few days and render a report, with a recommendation to the next regular meeting of the board of governors. General interest was aroused in the subject at issue when the communication was read yesterday. It was the emphatic belief of the Indianapolis trade body that the operation of the income tax laws will injure business, to a marked degree if they go into effect.

The uniqueness of campaign, launched as it has been by a single commercial organization of the country, and what results may come from it are closely watched with interest in this city.—Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville, Fla.

LAW ON INHERITANCE TAX IS DISREGARDED BY STATE OFFICIALS.

Ordinaries and Executors Have Not Returned One Penny Since Act Was Passed Four Months Ago.

Notwithstanding Georgia's inheritance tax law, passed by the last general assembly, has been effective four months and estates are passing into the hands of heirs almost every day in every county of the State, not a single penny of inheritance tax money has found its way into the State treasury.

Comptroller General William A. Wright has served notice on ordinaries and tax collectors that this law must be observed and has also furnished them with copies of the statute. The enforcement of the law is left practically to the ordinaries, who are required to furnish the tax collectors with notices of the amount of taxes due the State from each estate.

The tax collectors are required to collect these taxes and return them to the comptroller general on or before the 15th day of each month. The comptroller general can mandamus a tax collector who fails to obey the law, but he is without power to deal with the ordinaries.

The governor, through the attorney general and the solicitor general, can prosecute the ordinaries who disregard the law. It is provided in the inheritance tax law that an ordinary shall not allow a final accounting by an executor, administrator or trustee unless such accounting shows, and the ordinary finds, that all taxes imposed under the act on any property or interest passing through his hands as such, having been paid, and that the receipts of the tax collector for such taxes shall be the proper voucher for such payments.

Section 7 of the act provides that every executor, administrator or trustee of the estate of the decedent leaving property subject to taxation under this act, whether such property passes by will or by the laws of descent or otherwise, shall, within three months after his appointment, make and file an inventory thereof in the court of ordinary in the county having jurisdiction in the estate of the decedent; that an executor, administrator, administrator or trustee refusing or neglecting to comply with the provisions of this section shall be liable to a penalty not exceeding

ing \$1,000.

It is also provided that the taxes imposed shall be and remain a lien on the property subject to said tax from the death of the decedent and that all taxes imposed shall be due and payable at the death of the decedent.

A State house official who is familiar with the law and its operation gives the opinion that hundreds of executors and administrators in the State are now subject to prosecution and that the State now holds liens on numerous estates for unpaid taxes.

This official points out that Virginia, North Carolina and the other States which have similar inheritance tax laws, derive about \$50,000 annually from these taxes. Georgia is expected to collect between \$75,000 and \$100,000.

Four months have passed since the law became effective. Four months is one-third of a year. Figured at \$100,000 a year Georgia is therefore out for the four months, due to the negligence of the ordinaries, the sum of \$33,333. Fortunately however, the State is not barred from going back and enforcing these collections.

That portion of the inheritance tax law, which explains its application, follows:

"That from and after the passage of this act, all property within the jurisdiction of this State, real and personal and every estate and interest therein, whether belonging to the inhabitants of this State, or not, which shall pass under death of a decedent, by will or by the laws, regulating the descents and distribution, or by deed, grant, or gift except in cases of a bona fide purchase for a full consideration, made, or intended to take effect in possession of the grantor, or donor, to any person or persons, bodies politics or corporate, in trust or otherwise, shall be subject to taxes, and shall pay the following tax to this State:

"Upon a transfer taxable under this act of property or any beneficial interest therein, of an amount in excess of the value of \$1,000 to any father, mother, husband, wife, child, brother, sister, wife or widow of a son, or any child or children adopted as such, in conformity with the laws of this State, of the decedent, grantor, donor or vendor, or to any lineal descendant or such decedent, grantor, donor or vendor, born in lawful wedlock, the tax shall be at the rate of 1 per cent on any amount in excess of \$5,000.

"Upon a transfer taxable under this act, of property or any beneficial interest therein, of any amount to any person or corporation or association other than those enumerated in paragraph 1 of this section, the tax shall be at the rate of 5 per cent."

Ordinary John R. Wilkinson stated Wednesday afternoon that he had been studying the inheritance tax law as had a number of attorneys. He said the law was not entirely clear in defining the official whose duty it was to take the initiative in the collection of the tax.

"I will go actively into this matter after the first of the year," said Ordinary Wilkinson, "and will have appraisements made of all estates which have been settled in my court since the act became effective four months ago. In a number of wills appraisements are waived. However, I will have all these estates properly appraised in order that I may ascertain just what amount the estate is entitled to collect from each under the inheritance tax act."

The ordinary estimates that estates with an aggregate value of \$5,000,000, subject to the inheritance tax law, had been adjudicated in his court during the past four months. Should this prove to be correct the State will at the rate of 1 per cent be entitled to collect taxes amounting to \$50,000.—Georgia Journal.

THE PEANUT AS A STAPLE CROP.

When the boll weevil threatened the cotton crop of Louisiana, some of the wiser planters cast around for a crop which the destroying insect pest would not touch, and finally decided upon the peanut. It was later reported that they were more than satisfied with the substitution. The peanut has proved a very profitable crop, and one that called for less labor than cotton. In Florida considerably more than one and a half million bushels are raised annually, and mostly, we understand, for human consumption. The amount might be greatly increased without danger of overstocking the market.

Florida needs a staple crop or two, crops which are not perishable, and for which the demand is steady at all seasons. The peanut, which bears enormously in our light soils, is increasing in the general favor on account of its many uses. The nut, as an article of food, has a protein value higher than that of the pecan, chestnut, coconut or almond—more than double that of the pecan and nearly five times as great as that of the chestnut or the coconut. It is also very rich in the carbohydrates. The oil expressed from it has a high value as a dessert oil, while peanut butter is steadily increasing in popular esteem. The factories producing it are quite numerous, and all seem to be prospering.

Peanut hay is greatly relished by cattle. Well it may be, for it contains nearly as much protein as alfalfa, very little less than clover and over one-half more than timothy. In amount of the carbohydrates and fat it is only ex-

ceeded, and that not greatly, by timothy and clover. It is found a profitable hay crop.

As an adjunct to swine breeding, the value of the peanut is well established. Even after the crop of nuts is gathered, a drove of hogs may be turned loose in a field of peanuts, and they will find all that the farmer has overlooked and enough to thrive on. Hogs turned into a field of ripened, ungathered peanuts will wax fat rapidly almost without care to their owner. Finished with corn, such a drove will bring good prices in the market, while the cost of producing the pork is not great.

We are informed that if enough of the crop can be raised in this part of Florida to warrant the expenditure, the capital will be forthcoming to erect a mill at Jacksonville for extraction of the oil and the manufacture of peanut butter. This would insure a steady market for this product and raise it to the rank of a staple. The establishment of a peanut butter factory here would not only add to the wealth of Jacksonville, but would bring considerable money to the farmers of this and the surrounding counties, and that not one year or several merely, but for many years to come.—Florida Times-Union, Jacksonville, Fla.

\$506,000,000 IN WAGES PAID OUT IN YEAR 1913.

Railroads File Statistics With Commerce Board Showing Increases.

The railroads participating in the application for increasing rates have filed with the Interstate Commerce Commission statistics showing how wages have increased on these roads during the past several years.

The various railroad companies in this territory paid out \$506,000,000 in wages and salaries in the year ending June 30, 1913. Estimates for 29 of the 38 railroad systems concerned show an increase in wages for 1913 over 1910 of \$48,618,772.41, due to changes in rates of pay and working conditions.

This figure was obtained as a result of a request to the railroads to take the actual performance for the year ending June 30, 1913, and compare the rates of pay and working conditions prevailing at that period with those in effect in October, 1909, a period prior to the date of the important increases.

In addition to the increases up to June 30, 1913, careful estimates show that the increase in wages recently granted to the firemen, conductors and trainmen will add not less than \$8,750,000 more to the expenses of the railroad parties to the respective arbitration proceedings, this estimate being based on the volume of business for the calendar year 1912.

In addition to the average increases granted in the calendar year 1910, a small portion of which was effective in the fiscal year ending June 30, 1913, the engineers, firemen, conductors and trainmen have been awarded increases through arbitration proceedings amounting to \$10,350,000 per annum on the Eastern Railroads and increases in rates of pay have been granted to various other classes of labor amounting to large sums in the aggregate in addition to those granted in the year 1910.

Taken altogether, there has been an increase of 10.62 per cent in the average rates of pay on these railroads in 1913 over 1910.

Figures for the Pennsylvania system show that during the year 1913 the various companies of the system paid in wages the sum of \$189,397,069—an increase for the 1913 payroll of \$18,088,972 over what would have been paid to the same number of employees at the rate of wages prevailing in 1909.

Various increases and adjustments in wages from 1901 up to June 30, 1913, applied to the 1913 performance, added over \$45,000,000 to the payrolls of the Pennsylvania system companies by reason of changes in rates of pay and working conditions.

The records of the New York central lines show that wages paid since 1910 have amounted to \$10,000,000 more than would have been the case had not the successive increases and adjustments been made.

On the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad the increases amounted in this period to \$4,069,014.

Timber Land Owners Sue For Government Money.

The various owners of property in north Georgia which comprises the Appalachian reserve, the land having been condemned by the government, are fighting in the district federal court for the money which Uncle Sam has on hand to pay them.

Some of the titles to the property in question are in dispute, and the government will not pay for the land until these disputes are finally determined. The hearing on the various points will probably continue some time.

The property which the government has set aside, and which it will use in part as a game preserve, comprises large tracts of mountainous and timber land in Fannin and adjoining counties.

Justice Fined For Speeding.

It cost John F. Godillet, a Justice of the Peace of Westport, Conn., \$25 today in the West Farms Court for speeding yesterday in his automobile in the Pelham Parkway. The justice was fol-

lowed by Motorcycle Patrolman Lynch, who testified that his speedometer recorded 32 miles an hour.

"I was on the way to the railroad station to get my mother-in-law, and I did not believe I was going so fast," said the justice to Magistrate Schulz.

"I can't see any extenuating circumstances there," said the Magistrate. The justice further explained that his speedometer had been out of commission for a few days and that he did not think he was going more than twenty-five miles. He said that in his part of the country, in the unsettled localities, a speed of thirty miles is permitted.

"I am sorry," said Magistrate Schulz. "I will have to fine you \$25. I hope you will be more lenient with me if I am ever caught for speeding in your jurisdiction."

"Well, I usually ask if there ever has been a previous conviction before I impose a fine," said the justice. "I was going to do that in your case, but I was afraid it might cost you more than \$25 if I had," replied Magistrate Schulz.

"I thank you," replied the Justice, as he hurried away to pay his fine—Brooklyn Eagle.

Six Speeders Sent to Jail.

This morning \$190 was collected in automobile fines by Magistrate Joseph Fitch in the Flushing police court for violations of the speed limit. Twenty-two offenders were hauled up, of whom six went to jail each for two days.

Those who took the option of going behind the bars were: Monroe Scudder of Huntington, L. I., and Martin Thompson, 246 East Ninetieth street, Manhattan, both motor cyclists; Henry Wespahl, 140 West Forty-eighth street, Manhattan; William Peterson of Douglaston; Charles Lantenburg of Mills' Hotel, Manhattan, and Frank Green, 10 East Twenty-first street, Manhattan, all chauffeurs.

Charles Nitze of 1208 Buswick avenue, chief clerk of the Fifth District Magistrate's court, said that he was out riding with his wife, for her health, and did not intend to violate the law. He was fined \$25.

Miss Josephine Williams of 325 Manhattan avenue, the Bronx, was fined only \$3.

James A. Dayton, who appeared for William Wagner of Bayside, asked for leniency for his client. The magistrate said he considered the violators of the speed law as criminals, just the same as any other misdemeanants.—Brooklyn Eagle.

Auto Struck Tree.

Rutland, Dec. 22.—An automobile accident, wrapped in dark mystery, is reported from Mill Village, where on Saturday afternoon a Rambler car was pretty badly broken up in a collision with a huge tree by the side of the road. It is said by people living in the vicinity that the car was occupied by a young man and young woman, who, after the crash got out and started walking to Rutland. The name of the man is said to be Ralph Jewett of Springfield, Mass., a former agent for a correspondence school here, now staying here. Mr. Jewett could not be found last night.

It is known that neither was injured. The accident happened about 4 o'clock, the machine leaving the road and hurtling through space until bringing up against a tree. The car was still at the spot not far from the Mill Village chapel last night. The first and rear wheels, fenders and underwork were demolished. The machine was being driven toward Rutland, it is supposed, at a great rate of speed.

Ride Ends in Death.

New Haven, Dec. 22.—Mrs. Helen G. Watson, a Bridgeport stenographer, was killed during a ride with her employer, John L. Somers, of Bridgeport. The pair had spent the evening at the theatre and a cafe in this city and were skimming homeward when the auto crashed into a trolley car and Mrs. Watson was hurled heavily against the side of the car, crushing her skull. She was taken by the trolley car which had injured her to the New Haven general hospital, where she died shortly after her arrival.

Mrs. Watson was 21 years old. She did not live with her husband. Somers is held by Coroner Mix under \$1000 bonds for reckless driving. He promptly secured bail.

It Was a Close Shave.

Grant Neck, December 22.—While driving his automobile along the Middle Neck road late Saturday night David Olsen had a narrow escape from serious injury. His machine was going at a rapid rate and when near the estate of W. Gould Brokaw the car skidded and turned turtle. Olsen was saved from serious injuries by the tonneau of his machine. The automobile was wrecked.

Boy Has Broken Skull.

Bertram Strain, 12 years of age, of 821 Prospect place, who was injured by an automobile in front of his home, was operated upon shortly after the accident by Dr. William H. Proce of 801 Prospect place, and although the boy's skull has a fracture seven inches long and a piece was pushed into his head, it is thought he is getting stronger.—Brooklyn Eagle.

PINNED BENEATH OVERTURNED CAR.

Brookton Man Dies When Machine Turns Turtle.

Stoughton, Mass., Dec. 22.—Pinned for over an hour beneath his overturned automobile, R. Dale Smith, a prominent Brookton man, died on the roadbed in Washington street while his companion, Dr. Charles I. Graustein, lay stunned beside him.

Within a hundred yards were several houses, but their occupants were asleep and unconscious of the tragedy.

Smith was dying when Dr. Graustein regained consciousness. He could hear the groans of his friend while he struggled to free himself from the overturned car. But by the time he had extricated himself, searched about the touring car and found Smith his pulse had stopped. An hour passed between the time of the accident and when the physician felt about in the darkness for his wounded companion.

The two men were bound from Boston to Brookton. They reached Stoughton about 1 o'clock in the morning. On Washington street the machine skidded. Dr. Graustein says that when the auto began to slew on the roadbed Smith put on more power in an effort to keep the machine on its track. The wheels, however, failed to catch the earth.

The auto described an arc, and then, snapping in the air, fell upside down. Smith was pinioned beneath the engine. Dr. Graustein in some manner caught his foot in a forward wheel and was rendered unconscious when the machine fell.

An hour later, according to Dr. Graustein, he regained his senses. His foot was still caught in the wheel and with difficulty and much pain he extricated it.

Dr. Graustein then went to the nearest house, that of John Webb, who woke up several of the neighbors and notified the police of both Stoughton and Brookton.

The party went immediately back to the place where the automobile was overturned, lifted it up and found Smith dead beneath it.

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Always use Hyomei for bronchitis, cold in the head, husky voice, croup of infants and any inflammatory disease of the breathing organs. adv.

Estate of Edward F. Stokes.

Commissioners' Notice

The undersigned, having been appointed by the Honorable Probate Court for the district of Addison, commissioners, to receive, examine, and adjust the claims and demands of all persons against the estate of Edward F. Stokes, late of Shoreham, in said district, deceased, and all claims exhibited in offset thereto, hereby give notice that we will meet for the purpose aforesaid, at the store of F. W. Waite, in the town of Shoreham, in said district, on the 9th day of January, and 21st day of May, next, from 1 o'clock p. m. until 3 o'clock p. m., on each of said days, and that six months from said 21st day of November, A. D. 1913, is the time limited by said court for said creditors to present their claims to us for examination and allowance.

Dated at Shoreham, this 17th day of December, A. D. 1913.

Flin W. Waite, Commissioners.

A. M. Farnham, Commissioners.

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